

PREFACE

The California Highway Patrol has prepared the 1997 Annual Report of Fatal and Injury Motor Vehicle Traffic Collisions. This report was completed as a result of motor vehicle traffic collision reports received from local police and sheriff jurisdictions and from California Highway Patrol field offices.

The Statewide Integrated Traffic Records System (SWITRS) processes all reported fatal and injury collisions which occurred on California's state highways and all other roadways, excluding private property.

Property Damage Only (PDO) collisions are found in Sections 1 and 8 of this publication. PDO's are indicators of the volume of traffic collisions and are not exact statistics. This is due to some agencies reporting only partial numbers of their PDO collisions or none at all.

This report is prepared in accordance with Section 2408 of the California Vehicle Code. The cooperation of all traffic law enforcement agencies is greatly appreciated.

Copies of this report can be obtained from — Business Services Section, California Highway Patrol, Post Office Box 942898, Sacramento, CA 94298-0001 by payment of \$13.45 (sales tax and postage included).